

## **Weekly Status & Information Report: Week of November 14-18, 2011:**

### **Official City Meetings Scheduled the Week of November 21, 2011:**

- City Council meeting, Monday, November 21, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium  
- Arts and Humanities Commission meeting, Tuesday, November 22, 7:30 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room  
All meetings are held in the Community Center and open to the public unless noted otherwise. Contact [JessieC@takomagov.org](mailto:JessieC@takomagov.org) to check for cancellations or for additional information. (City Clerk)

**Last Meeting of the Current City Council and Inaugural Meeting of the Newly Elected City Council:** On Monday evening, November 21, the current City Council will meet for the last time. Following this, the new City Council will be sworn in and take its place at the dais. Please join us in saying farewell to the three departing members of the Council and welcoming the new members. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. and a reception will be held afterward (at approximately 8:15 p.m.). (City Clerk)

**Leaf Collection:** Vacuum leaf collection starts November 21 and runs until December 23. City crews will be collecting leaves raked to the curb City-wide over the next 5 weeks. Residents who live along State Highway routes will have 2 posted collection days. You can call the Leaf Collection Hotline to report your leaf pile at the curb - 301-891-7626. The City also provides collection of leaves and other yard waste in large paper bags or stiff sided containers on Mondays throughout the year. (Public Works)

**The Community Center will be Closed:** Happy Thanksgiving! The City of Takoma Park will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 24 and 25, for the Thanksgiving Holiday. The Library will be open on Saturday, but the Takoma Park Community Center will be closed. The Police Department is always open!

**Purple Line Planning Meeting:** The Purple Line project team met with area residents and representatives of property owners to discuss planning at and around the planned station at University Boulevard and New Hampshire Avenue. The station platform is planned for the center of the roadway with access from a crosswalk at New Hampshire Avenue and a crosswalk at the existing light at the entrance to the Taco Bell on University Boulevard (future Transit Station site). Concerns raised included how the bike lanes will be marked through the intersections, an interest in reducing the number of lanes on University Boulevard, and if the Purple Line will get a priority signal at intersections. (Housing and Community Development)

**Grow on the New Ave:** The City offers assistance to groups interested in community gardening and greening on New Hampshire Avenue. To date the City has provided grants for five projects on public and private land along the New Hampshire Avenue corridor. Applications are accepted until January 31, 2012 and may be obtained at <http://www.thenewave.com/files/docs/application-community-gardens.pdf>. For more information please contact Erkin Ozberk at 301-891-7213 or email [ErkinO@takomagov.org](mailto:ErkinO@takomagov.org). (Housing and Community Development)

**Traffic Modeling Under Discussion:** City staff attended a multi-jurisdictional meeting at Montgomery County Planning Department as part of an ongoing effort to review and discuss traffic review around the US as the county Planning Staff considering revisions and want to know whether current methods achieve the best transportation system feasible. (Housing and Community Development)

**Save the Date! Zoning Update - Module 2 Presentation:** The next Zoning Advisory Panel (ZAP) meeting is scheduled for November 30th, 7:00 p.m. at 8787 Georgia Ave. It will include a presentation of Module #2 (Uses and Dimensional Standards for all Zones) by the consultants. Non-ZAP members may not participate in meetings but may observe. (Housing and Community Development)

**TONIGHT- Washington Musica Viva Concert:** Tonight's program includes Claude Bolling's Suite for violin plus jazz trio, and "Bukowski Liked Mozart" by Charley Gerard (after the Mozart Sonata #9 in F, K. 377) with Kathy Judd, violin, Carl Banner, piano, Jon Nazdin, bass, and Lenny Robinson, drums. Friday, November 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, 7500 Maple Avenue. Admission fee.  
<http://www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD#!/TakomaParkMD?sk=events> (Housing and Community Development)

**SATURDAY night - KIZUNA:** "We are Takoma" presents an evening of Japanese drumming with Kristen Koyama, Paul Bodnar and Mark Rooney. Saturday, November 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium. No advance seating. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. This a free event - donations are welcome.  
<http://www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD#!/TakomaParkMD?sk=events> (Housing and Community Development)

**American Association of Code Enforcement (AACE) Code Conference:** Code Enforcement staff, Marjorie Ciccone, attended the annual AACE Education Conference in Nashville last week for credits towards renewal of AACE and International Code Council (ICC) inspector certifications. Sovereign Citizens, Foreclosure Forum, and Code Communication were several of the classes offered. (Housing and Community Development)

**Left, Right, Left & More:** For the past several weeks, Takoma Park Elementary School students have been learning the basics of crossing the street using the new crosswalk simulation kit. At the invitation of the TPES Principal, the City's Safe Routes to School Coordinator has conducted a Crosswalk Simulation Activity with students in the kindergarten and second grade level. After a lesson on pedestrian safety, students use props to create a "virtual" intersection. Taking turns acting as pedestrians, cars and signs, they practiced their new crosswalk safety skills. Using this fun and engaging tool, they learn and remember pedestrian safety best practices. Eighteen classes participated. (Housing and Community Development)

**Piney Branch Elementary Bike Rodeo:** At Piney Branch Elementary, six classes of third grade students learned about Pedestrian and Bike Safety. The City's Safe Routes to School Coordinator and Piney Branch's new PE Teacher, Geoffrey Goidell, used the new interactive Crosswalk Simulation Activity and the Bike Rodeo to instruct the students over two PE periods. The Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA) loaned Takoma Park a trailer with the necessary equipment to conduct the bike safety workshops on site. WABA trained parents, City and school personnel to lead the Bike Rodeos at Piney Branch - these workshops will be offered in the future at two fourth grade class next week at East Silver Spring and to Rolling Terrace in the spring. (Housing and Community Development)

**Bike Briefing to Recreation Committee:** City staff attended the Recreation Committee meeting this week and gave a briefing on City activities related to Bikeshare, Bike to Work Day, and Bike to School. Montgomery County is putting together an application for Bikeshare implementation funding from the State of Maryland which is expected to be submitted in December. For the first time, the City will have Bike to Work Day stations within the City boundaries. Finally, this is a bike focus year for the Safe Routes to school program, ranging from activities to infrastructure and training. If you would like to volunteer for Bike to Work Day or Safe Routes to School, please call 301-891-7119. (Housing and Community Development)

**Save the Date! Bikeshare Open House:** The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) invites the public to provide comments on a bikesharing initiative proposed for Takoma Park, Silver Spring, Forest Glen, Wheaton and Friendship Heights, Bethesda and Medical Center. Staff is seeking input on bikesharing locations as part of a grant application to the Maryland Department of Transportation for a bikesharing system. The open house will be held on Tuesday, November 29 from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the lobby auditorium of the Executive Office Building, 101 Monroe Street, Rockville. The building is a short walk from the Rockville station on the Metro Red line. (Housing and Community Development)

**French Circle Time:** French Circle Time with Madame Marie on Saturday, November 19 at 10:30 a.m., followed by a brief demonstration (in French) of Little Pim, our online language learning resource for young children, with Karen MacPherson. (Library)

**"Online Book Fun":** On Saturday, November 19 at 2 p.m., there will be a demonstration of the new online book resources we have for kids called the Tumblebook Library and TumbleReadables. We'll read some online books together on the big screen and then try out some of the associated puzzles and games with Karen MacPherson, Rebecca Brown and Dave Burbank. These are exciting new Library e-resources, made possible by the Friends of the Library. All are invited! Don't miss it this unique program! (Library)

**The Caldecott Club:** The Caldecott Club will take place Monday, November 21 at 7 p.m. It will be great for kids, families and adults who love children's books. Join us to discuss the likely candidates for this year's Caldecott Medal Award! All are welcome. (Library)

**The Banned Books Club:** The Banned Books Club will meet on Monday November 28 at 7:30 PM for a discussion of "The Sun Also Rises" by Ernest Hemingway. For middle and high school students. Please register. (Library)

**The Friends Reading Group:** Don't forget to join the Friends Reading Group for its re-scheduled discussion of "Cutting for Stone" by Abraham Verghese at 7:30 PM on Wed. November 30 in the Hydrangea Room. All are welcome. (Library)

**Winter Basketball League – Space is limited!:** Parents, don't miss out on the chance to have your son/daughter participate in the hottest league in town this winter. There are only a few spaces left in the 2012 Winter Basketball League. To register online please visit: [www.activenet.active.com/takomaparkrecreation](http://www.activenet.active.com/takomaparkrecreation). For additional information please contact Lew McAllister at (301) 891-7284 or [LewM@takomagov.org](mailto:LewM@takomagov.org). (Recreation)

**Winter Basketball League – Coaches Meeting (Tuesday, November 22):** On Tuesday, November 22, the Recreation Department will be hosting its 2012 Winter Basketball Coaches Meeting. The event will be held at the Recreation Center (7315 New Hampshire Avenue) and will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. Anyone interested in coaching this season should attend as this will be a great way to learn more about the league. For additional information please contact Lew McAllister at (301) 891-7284 or [LewM@takomagov.org](mailto:LewM@takomagov.org). (Recreation)

**Pure Muscle Demonstration Classes:** Pure Muscle demonstration classes are offered on Thursdays during the month of November at the Takoma Park Recreation Center. The time of the class is 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. This class is focused on building strength and toning muscles in the arms, abs and legs. For more information contact John Webster at (301) 891-7289. (Recreation)

**Silver Foxes Travel to Amish Market:** On Friday, November 18, twenty seniors ventured out to the Dutch country farmers market for a day full of shopping. The Amish Market is known for having one of the best thrift stores in the area. Silver Fox seniors requested this trip because of its past popularity. (Recreation)

**Tai Chi for Your Health:** Volunteer instructor, Kirk Talbott, introduced sixteen seniors to the ancient martial art of t'ai-chi' ch'uan. Feedback about the program was extremely positive as the seniors expressed their appreciation for the program and the many health benefits. (Recreation)

**Police Department Officer Training:** Approximately 1/4 of the sworn officers attended the first session of the Fall/Winter semi-annual firearms training and qualifications. The rest of the agency will attend in the next two weeks. This training included night fire tactics and qualifications. Use of force and officer safety tactics are also instructed as part of the annual firearms training curriculum, which is overseen by the Department's Training Officer, Lt. Rick Bowers. The training is held at the MPCTC Firearms facility in Sykesville and is conducted by the agency's own staff of firearms instructors including Officer Rick Cannatella, Sgt. Dan Frishkorn, Cpl. Jerome Erwin, and Officer David Quante.

**Crime Report:** The most recent Takoma Park Weekly Crime Report (November 11 - 17, 2011) may be viewed online at: [http://tppolice.blogspot.com/2011/11/takoma-park-police-department-weekly\\_17.html](http://tppolice.blogspot.com/2011/11/takoma-park-police-department-weekly_17.html)

**Traffic Enforcement:** November 11 through November 18, 2011, Officers conducted 131 traffic stops, resulting in 2 DUI arrests, 1 Drug arrest, and 2 vehicle impounds:

#### November 11

Albany Ave & Takoma Ave (Stop Sign Enforcement) - conducted 30 minute detail, no citations Issued

East West Highway at Kentland Avenue (No Left Turn enforcement) - conducted 30 minute detail, 1 State Citation Issued

Merrimac Drive at Carroll Avenue (Stop Sign Enforcement) - conducted 1 hour detail, 3 State Citations Issued

#### November 12

New Hampshire Ave at Holton Lane (No Left turn, No U-Turn) conducted 30 minute detail, 2 Written Warnings Issued

#### November 16

New Hampshire Avenue at Holton lane (Red Light Enforcement) - conducted 30 minute detail, 5 State Citations Issued

Maple Avenue at Tulip Avenue (Stop Sign Enforcement) - conducted 1 hour detail, 3 State Citations Issued - 1 Warning Issued

Ethan Allen Avenue at Jackson Avenue (No Right Turn) - conducted 1 hour detail, 4 State Citations Issued - 1 Warning Issued

#### Traffic Officer Stats (Cpl. Michelle Holmes) - Week of November 10 - 17, 2011:

Court Hours: 2.5

State Citations Issued: 40

Safety Equipment Repair Orders Issued: 2

Written Warnings Issued: 5

City Parking Citations Issued: 43

